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## County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

February 12, 2019

The Honorable Jim Cooper Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 State Administration State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program Funding** 

Dear Assemblyman Cooper:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support Governor Newsom's proposed investment of \$10 million General Fund for the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to continue funding for the Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program. The program assists victims of sex and/or labor trafficking in recovering from the trauma they experience and reintegrating into society.

Victims of trafficking suffer from horrific and severe forms of physical, emotional and sexual abuse. This results in severe trauma to the victim that requires intensive services to protect the victim from their perpetrators and help them in their long journey to recovery. This \$10 million ongoing funding will allow grant recipients to continue to provide comprehensive safety and supportive services, including a 24-hour crisis hotline, emergency shelter, temporary housing, emergency food and clothing, counseling, transportation, legal assistance, and referrals to existing local resources.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support additional funding for the Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or <a href="mailto:icandelaria@sbcounty.gov">icandelaria@sbcounty.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Curt Hagman

Fourth District Supervisor

Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisor

c: Members and Consultants, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation